

13 JUNE 2000

Mahathir-Arrival

DR MAHATHIR RETURNS HOME AFTER WEEK-LONG TRIP TO JAPAN

SUBANG, June 13 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad returned home today after a successful week-long working visit to Japan.

Dr Mahathir, accompanied by his wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali and a six-member delegation, arrived at the Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah Airport here at 4pm on a special Malaysian government jet.

On hand to receive him were Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, Transport Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik and several other cabinet ministers.

During the trip to Japan, Dr Mahathir joined world leaders to attend the funeral of the late Japanese Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi at the Nippon Budokan in Tokyo last Thursday.

Obuchi died on May 14, six weeks after suffering a stroke and falling into a coma.

Dr Mahathir also called on Yoshiro Mori who succeeded Obuchi as prime minister.

He attended Nikkei's Sixth International Conference in Tokyo which was held to map out strategies to accelerate East Asia's recovery from the devastating 1997 financial crisis.

Dr Mahathir delivered a keynote address at the conference on "The Future of Asia" organised by the media group Nihon Keizei Shimbun.

The prime minister also stopped at Nagoya to see some of the most modern plants belonging to Japanese multinationals.

-- BERNAMA

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